

**CLAIMS**

1. A sealing device for rotating equipment, comprising:

at least one sensor;

and at least one data storage device;

5 wherein said at least one sensor is arranged to measure variable information relating to the performance of the sealing device and to feed said information to said at least one storage device.

2. A device according to claim 1, wherein said information stored is remotely

10 accessible by wireless technology.

3. A device according to claim 2, wherein said wireless technology is RFID, WAP, WEP, WLAN, Bluetooth, Internet, phones and/or satellite.

15 4. A device according to claim 1, wherein said information stored is remotely accessible by non-wireless technology.

5. A device according to claim 4, wherein said non-wireless technology comprises LAN, Cable, hard wiring and/or a field bus connector.

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6. A device according to claim 1, wherein said at least one sensor is connected to an amplifier and/or a micro-controller and one of the at least one data storage device.

25 7. A device according to claim 6, wherein said one of the at least one data storage device is accessed by a remote unit comprising of a display, and/or keypad and remote antennae or receiver.

8. A device according to claim 1, wherein the at least one sensor is a strain measurement device that is fixed to a component of the sealing device.

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9. A device according to claim 1, wherein the at least one sensor is a linear measurement device.

10. A device according to claim 1, wherein said information is processed by a software application configured to advise on remedial actions.

5           11. A device according to claim 1, wherein the device further comprises: an axially split drive collar, one end of said split drive collar being fixed to a stationary part of the sealing device and the other end of the split device collar being attached to said at least one sensor device.

10           12. A device according to claim 1, wherein the at least one sensor and the at least one data storage device are operable to provide feedback control.

13. A method of monitoring the performance of a sealing device for rotating equipment, comprising:

15           measuring variable information by means of at least one sensor incorporated in the sealing device; and  
                 providing said information to at least one data storage device.

14. A method according to claim 13, wherein the information stored in the at least 20 one storage device is displayed on display means.